From: Ben Stragnell

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/24/02 12:15am

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As a computer professional, it's my opinion that Microsoft has set the computing industry back many years by using their dominant position to stifle independent innovation.

The proposed settlement contains so many loopholes as to render it entirely worthless. Accepting it will permit Microsoft to continue to retard the development of the US industry. The USPTO already has a great deal to answer for in granting ridiculous patents to coporate behemoths. Please do not allow the DoJ to become equally reviled within the technology industry.

Yours, Ben Stragnell